THE WISE ALDERMEN.

Why the Proposal to Fill the Harlem Lots Was Rejected.

WRETCHED SHOW OF PARTY SPIRIT

Republicans in Contempt Made Contemptible.

PRESENT DANGER OF PLAGUE

Views of Professor Chandler and Fitz John Porter.

THE FLATS YESTERDAY.

Veneering the Reeking Mass with an Inch of Earth.

The action of the republican members of the Board of Aldermen in defeating the ordinances assigned to empower the Commissioner of Public Works to fill in the sunken lots in Harlem created widespread feeling of indignation yesterday in the city. If there be peril to the health of the people from any quarter it is assuredly from this. Half a dozen ships lying at the Battery, and fresh from plague-infected ports, would not be more perflous than the existence under the breiling July sun of the score or more of sunken areas of territory in Harlem filled with the flithiest shime that was ever allowed to acsummate under the nostrils of a civilized com-munity. Only those who live in Harlem or who have occasion to pass through that afflicted region or Mannattan Island can adequately appreciate the danger to which not alone Harlem is subjected, but the entire city south of it. For months past the air in the upper quarter of the island has been heavy with the loathsome for blocks along the line of Second, Third and Pourth avenues. Combined with the smell from the filling stuff that the ingenious Disbecker invented and now seeks a patent for, there never was, since the destruction of Jerusalem, such a foul pollution of the air of heaven.

A PLAIN COURSE FOR THE ALDERMEN. Corporation Counsel Delafield Smith had his ppinion asked for by the honorable Board of Alsermen as to the power of said Board to pass certain proposed ordinances for the filling of the Hariem lots. Counsel replied that under the law the Common Council was authorized to pass such ordinances as it might from time to time deem accessary for filling up and regulating any grounds within the city of New York that may be "snuken. damp or unwholesome," or which the Common Council might deem proper to fill up or regulate. The laws governing this subject, he further said. were now in full force, and he saw no reason to loubt that the Common Council could at once go shead and order the work to be performed, while a valid assessment for the expense of such filling can be laid upon the lots benefited. Nothing could be plainer than this. If the Aldermen knew the tury tuey owed to the citizens of New York at a crisis like the present they would have sunk their PALTRY DIFFERENCES.

and voted unanimously to let the Commissioner of Public Works proceed immediately with the work. But it seems the republican members who have been recently in contempt found it impossible to return in good humor to the discharge of the public business, and rather than vote for a proper and timely resolution offered by a demoarat, resolved to let the vital interests of the whole community go by the board, even though the penalty of pestilence warned them of their infatuated and most unjustifiable conduct. WASTE OF TIME.

The project of filling these Harlem lots has now been before the Board for over three weeks, and four ordinances, all bearing on the various quarters of Hariem where the nuisances exist, were drawn up at different times. The Board of Realth favored the scheme, the carrying out of which it was unable to exact. It was clearly the task the Beard of Aldermen should immediately push to a successful conclusion. They have failed to do it. struction and defeated a wise and saintary measure must be held to a rigid account-As will be seen by one of the interviews appended the reason advanced by one republican Alderman for the course he took was technical propriety in one way and political suspicion in another. He wanted to act up to the letter of the charter and have the work done by pontract, as if the SPECTES OF PLACES

would wait upon technicalities; and he was also afraid the democrats might win a little capital by being first in the field with the proposition, and that they might take advantage of the option given Commissioner Porter and crowd the job with un-

sold numbers of laboring voters.

It is clear to the commonest mind that the Com missioner, if fettered by the resolution this virtuous Alderman demanded-namely, that the work should be done by contract and the job advertised, as the law requires, thirty days ahead, the tised, as the law requires, thirty days abend, the diling of the Harison lots would not begin until the summer was ever. Now is the time it should be done, for now the danger exists. Next month (august) is even a more trying part of the summer than the present. Should the city escape pestiline it will have no thanks to give the Aldermen. On the Plats, between Pirst and Second avenues, and reaching from Ninety-third to 102d street, a Herafin reporter yesterday found some twenty-live men and five or six wagons at work spreading a thin layer of earth over the mass of fettid, festering fith with which the low ground has been filled. On

ave or six wagons at work spreading a thin layer of earth over the mass of fettis, lessering fith with watch the low ground has been filled. On walking from Second avenue over to the place where the men were engaged, which was nearer to Third avenue, the reporter had an opportunity of examining the work already performed and discovering whether the thin layer of earth which had been laid on had done anything toward smothering the offensive and unawnolesome smeil. The ground had the appearance of a bog or marsh which had been partially drained and then covered over with a stain stratum of mould or earth. The foot sunk in walking and the ground underneath had a apringry, spongy leeling, that conveyed the impression of walking on a quagmire. The smeil too, was only ball smethered, and every time the foot sunk a little deeper than usual a littly, sick-sning oder was emitted, resembling somewhat the smeil sent forth from a dead cat or dog, when stirred, after being allowed to become almost decomposed. The depth of the earth covering which kept the sun's rays from playing directly upon the fifthy mass beneath was not more than three or four inches, and as it was only snaken on closely it must gradually diminish to atmost hill the depth. The passage of the wagons and the trampling of the mea who are working upon it, added by an occasional shower of rain, will soon reduce the thickness of the layer of earth and to a great extent mix it with the foul stuff underneaus, so that this covering is only a mere temporary expedient to save appearances for the present and lessen the smell. From a sanitary point of view its effects must be trining and insignificant. he smell. From a sanitary point o

and lessen the smell. From a sanitary boint of view its effects must be triting and insunificant. A beavy shower of rain or continuous wet weather would leave almost no trace of the covering behind, and it is

to Serve any purpose, even that of making the public believe that there is any real desire to apply an effectual remedy to the horrible and dangerous nuisance. Judging by the appearance of the people was live in the shantles along the Second avenue border of these flats the injected air of the locality must produce a deleterious effect on the human system. Even the calidren who are to be found romping around, though apparently strong, lack the ruddy color of those who are further removed from the postuferous region, and an assence of that botserous spirit which bespeaks the heatiny child may be noticed at the first look. They are pale, dirty and squalid looking, and the sare feet of many of them have a coating of mud whose odor is not of the most pleasant kind. Even the hens, duexs and geese kept by the poor people who dwolf in these shantles have an unhealthy, started look, and one cannot help thinking that the eggs brought into the city from this region of filth acc garbage cannot be of the most wholesome kind nor of the most inviting flavor.

On arriving at the spot where the men were

Bost of the space had been already covered, and they were engaged on an area of about twenty square pards of wet, feetid mud. Here and there were small poels of liquid that could carcely be called water, of many colora—red, green and purple—and having a filthy white from or scum that showed the length of sime it must have been allowed to fester in the sun before any attempt was made to cover it. As the wagous came near to these pools the ground became softer and the wheels stuck deeply, leaving ruts that soon became filed with the filthy liquid, that one of the workman jocosely designated the JUIGE OF DEAD CATS AND DOGS.

Frequently the wheels stuck fast in these ruts and a pair of horses had to be taken from one of the wagous and kept on the ground for the purpose of extricating those whole could not get out unaided. The steach emitted as the horrible stuff was thus stirred up was the worst the reporter has ever experienced. As a loan of earth would be let down two or three men with shovels would commence to Spread it over the wet spots. They seemed determined to

ECONOMIZE THE PRECIOUS CLAY

and to make the layer as thin as possible. Their manner of working would remind one of turning a floor of malt. They took a shovel full of earth and jerked it lightly over, showing remarkable dexerity in making the stuff go as far as possible; in fact the earth is laid on so sparingly that it is only a thin veni, a hypocritical make believe of a covering that can serve no parpose but that of allaying the public discontent for a short season. Inquiries made of the workman elicited the information that the earth broug, "the wagous was taken from some cellars which "a being dug out in Highly-sixta and Eighty-se the stores and Second avenue and from other the places, it was sloo ascertained that Jones & McQuade are the sole employers of the men.

"How muon are you paid for this work?" asked the reporter of one of the men.

"How mon are you paid for this work?" asked the reporter of one of the men.

"How he added, as he strive

"He'll fide home in the palace car this evening," said another, "and give the ladies a snift of the new Harlem perfume. It's the puritiest smell in the country."

"He's takin' ais wages out in real estate," said a taird, "and I wish him joy of his sweet bargain." The man was really in a sorry phight, covered over from head to foot with filth and looking sullen and discontented at the necessity of having to do such disgusting work.

THE FERLING OF THE PROPLE
in the immediate vicinity of the flats at the refusal of the city authorities to appropriate the necessary funds for the filling in of the unhealthy regin is very strong; but they have become so accustomed to neglect and mismanagement that it does not surprise them much. Many would like to remove from the locality, but, having bought properly or started in business, would incurserious loss by leaving. With the Peoper classes the great inducement to remain in the neighborhood is the cheapness of rents, and they will put up with a thousand inconveniences in order to secure that book. An old woman of great intelligence, who has resided many years in the neighborhood, informed the reporter that it is peculiarly destructive of the neath of children, and that the problem of bringing them up, always difficult with poor people in a large city. Is rendered tenfold more arduous by the pentiferous vapors of the Harlem flats. A doctor, residing in the same locality, confirmed this opinion, and says the mortality smong young children during the summer months is unusually great, though some portion of it is due to the food given them by fooling parents, who supply them with food that is only fit for aduits. But the chief cause of the mortality, he says, its certainty the unwidely smong of the food given them by fooling parents, who supply them with food that is only fit for aduits. But the chief cause of the mortality, he says, its certainty the unwidely of the down town districts.

While passing the infected district the passen-

death rate is greater than in the most crowded of the down town districts.

IN THE CARS
while passing the infected district the passengers gave ventre taler indignation by some hard swearing, but some wags only saw in it the opportunity for cracking some small jokes. "A man gets used to everydings," said the German conductor; "I have dravelled deess road vife year, and I minds it no more. I wisn I owned dat broserdy, und I goes no more mit a pell boonch." He then proceeded to tell the reporter in his teurchized English sow he would fill up the hellows with ashes and all kinds of suffith that could be got for little or nothing, and went into ecitacles over the idea of the amount they would fetch when ready for building purposes. In fact he showed that he was a DISBROKER IN EMBRYO, and if properly developed might work wonders in the dumping line. On the whole the impression conveyed by a visit to the flats, and a personal examination of their horriole contents, is that they will be the cause of dreadul mortality some time if a speedy and effectual remedy be not applied.

FITZ JOHN PORTER INTERVIEWED. The reporter next called on the Commissioner, Filz John Forter, and having asked him if he deemed the question of filling the flats set at rest by the action of the Aldermen was handed the following letter, which the Commissioner addressed to the Mayor:

OFFICE OF COMMISSIONER OF PUBLIC WORKS.

HON. WILLIAM H. WICKHAM, Mayor of the city of New York:

Sin-i per leave to callyour attention to the orders of

York:—
Sin-1 beg leave to call your attention to the orders of
the Board of Health directing the Department of Fablic
Works to drain certain lands as follows:—
L. Between 199th and 198th streets, Third avenue and
Harlein River.
L. Between Ninety-sixth and 196th streets, Fourth and

2 Between Sheet State 199th streets, Third and Firth 3 Between 195th and 199th streets, Third and Firth avenues.

4 Netween 103d and 104th streets, Third and Pourth

avenues.

4. Between 103d and 104th streets, Third and Fourth avenues.

For which plans and specifications have been prepared, and the work advertised to be let by contract on the 19th inst. Freiminary to the execution of the work of draining a large amount of earth filling will be required which is not specially called for in these orders, and the resolutions now before the floard of alterater, published in the Chy Record, of June 13, should be passed so as to give this denarround of Health for the relief of the intention of the work is not to be paid for out of a specially called his the work is not to be paid for out of a special called for the success of the work is not to be paid for out of a special called and for which is not limited to any particular and for which is not limited to any particular and for which the city will be reimburated by assessment poon the property benefited. The cost of the work will be determined by the bids received therefor and if authorized, will be kept as low as possible. Very respectivity,

Commissioner of Public Works.

Reporter—General, how do you stand in this matter?

REPORTER—General, how do you stand in this matter?

General Porter—The bids for draining the flats are due on the 19th. If there be no hitch in the Comptroller's office, I shall be ready immediately siter that date to go on with the work of draining, but that is only half the job. The places grained should be at once flilled in with clean earth, and for that purpose I addressed the Mayor a letter calling his attention to the fact.

REPORTER—If the ordinance is passed do you apprehend any further obstruction?

General Potter—I am only fearful now of the draining contract. The Comptroller has the power to reject the bids if he thinks fit, and so delay the work. Of course I hope no empartassment will be thrown in the way of the department proceeding immediately with the operations, and if we were only assured of the co-operation of the Board of Aider men it would be all the bester. With these lots drained and filled in—and the whole enterprise would occupy no more train two months, though three or four weeks would suffice to place them in a harmless condition—there need never be any apprehension of plague in Harlem arising from the stagnant cesspools. Men have come to me and offered to pay for having the earth hauled away to fill these lots. The actual expense to the city would be trifing, and I am firmly persuaded if these sunken places on the line of Firm avenne, above 102d street, were regularly filled in the value of the property would be increased 1,000 per cent. All the property around these plague spots would increase in value, while the entire city would be relieved of a constant source of danger.

FROFESSOR CHANDLER.

The Board of Health are much annoyed at the delay in removing the nuisance from the pestilential Harlem flats, especially now that there are

The Board of Health are much annoyed at the delay in removing the nuisance from the pestilential Harlem flats, especially now that there are really no obstacles to prevent the work being carried out. Every day's doiay during this heates term adds to the sickness in the city, and unless some move in the right direction be made fortherwith the mortality in the neighboring districts will be largely increased. A HERALD reporter paid a visit yesteriay to Professor Chandler, the President of the Board of Heasth, and found him very anxious for some action on the part of the Board of Apportionment that would enable them to get to work and remedy some portion of the evil. President Chandler's views were expressed as follows:—

Repostra—What action is the Board of Health going to take, now that the Board of Aldermen have declined to pass the ordinance enabling the Commissioner of Public Works to fill up the Harlem flats?

Professor Chandlers—We are perfectly helpless

street, between Second and Third avenues, and 107th street, between First and Second avenues. That would be a great help, and the other bad places should be attended to by those interested. Reporture Who are the parties you refet to? Professor Chandles—Several private property-holders; for instance, the north side of 107th street, between Fourth and Lexington avenues, belonging to P. A. Jackson; north side of 107th street, between Lexington and Third avenues, belonging to the Thomas Watt estate; 106th and 107th streets, between Second and Third avenues, belonging to P. N. Sponford; south side of 108th street, between Second and Third avenues, belonging to the Thomas Watt estate; north side of 107th street, between First and Second avenues, owner unknown; south side of 108th street, between First and Second avenues, belonging to the Thomas Watt estate; north side of 107th street, between First and Second avenues, belonging to the Thomas Watt estate; north side of 108th street, between First and Second avenues, belonging to the Thomas Watt estate; north side of 108th street, between Fourth not Nadison avenues, belonging to W. H. Gebbardt.

REPORTER—Can nothing be done to compel these property owners to do their share of the Work?

Professor Chandles—We have done all in our

REFORTER—Can nothing be done to compel these property owners to do their share of the work?

Professor Chandler—We have done all in our power by having them notified, through our attorney, of the nuisance, so that they may take immediate steps to have it remedied.

REFORTAR—What is being done about the other portions of the pestilential district?

Professor Chandler—I suppose you refer to the blocks from Ninety-third to 1020 attrect, between Second and Third avenues, and the blocks from Ninety-second street to 104th street, between First and Second avenues. They are covered by the Jones-McQuade contract; but the work is being done very slowly. They have filled up as yet with nothing but ashes, and if they would go to work and put in about two feet of good earth everything would be all right.

REFORTER—Is there nothing else necessary to bring the Harlem flats in a healthy condition?

Professor Chandler—On, yes; the whole section requires a comprehensive system of drainings and sewers. The Board of Public Works will attend to that as soon as the other work of filling in 18 completed.

to that as soon as the other work of illing in is completed.

REFORTER—What is the matter with the Board of Apportionment that they should put such a check upon a work necessary to the health of the city?

Frofessor Chandler—I cannot comprehend, because, even if we did not have a balance of \$20,000 standing to our credit, they have the power to grant us funds belonging to other departments in an emergency of this nature and importance.

REFORTER—Well, then, without their action you are perfectly helpiess?

importance.
REPORTER—Well, then, without their action you are perfectly helpiess?
Professor CHANDLER—Certainly; because without movey we can do nothing, and we have to look to them for the necessary sinews of war. If they intend to do anything for us it is to be hoped that they will do it promptly, before the minama that they will do it promptly, before the minama that exudes from that district fills our hospitals with patients suffering from its injurious and noxious vapors.

ONE OF THE OBSTRUCTIONERS.
Alderman Howland was found at his effice, No. 60 Wall street, and on the question being put to him why he voted against the passage of the resolution giving the Commissioner of Public Works discretionary power in regard to filling the Harleim lots, replied:—

I voted against the resolution for quite sufficient reason. It suthorized the Commissioner to execute the work of filling in the lots "by contract or in such manner as he shill deem best." I was willing to vote for the resolution to have the work done by contract. To bjected and still object to leave it at the option of the Commissioner. Had the resolution passed he could, if he chose, have it done by day's work; but the object of the new chartor was to do away with all work paid for by the day, It was work; but the object of the new chartor was to do away with all work paid for by the day, It was that method of doing things that enabled the Ring in one way to rob the city and carry the elections. Just before an election took place 3,000 or 4,000 men would be put on the boulevards and paid by the day, and when the election was over all of them would be elsplace 3,000 or 4,000 men would be put on the boule-wards and paid by the day, and when the election was over all of them would be discharged. The whole spirit of the city charter is opposed to this principle of employing men on the public works by the day. Then, again, General Fitz John Porter, in his letter to the Mayor, said he was promised by residents of Harlem the filling material free of charge; but I know well he would never get anything like the quantity required for the Job, and after he had gone on for a little while with the work he would suddenly find bimself compelled to purchase the necessary material of which he is now promised a few cart loads.

REFORTER—It is said you republicans voted aginst the resolution in order to sustain Dispecker?

DISBECKER OF NO ACCOUNT.

Alderman Howland—A great mistake. I don't know whether Disbecker know of the matter or not. Certainly, I never took Dissecker into account, and I don't know If he was worth considering one way or the other. I suppose he may be a republican; but that is of little account to any-body. republican; but that is of little account to any-body.

REPORTER—Was there no political motive what-

body.

Reporter—Was there no political motive whatever in your action?

Alderman Howland—None; there could be none. Pil vote to-morrow for the resolution if they will allow us to amend it in conformity with the purpose of the charter to have all such work done by contract and in no other way.

Reporter—Did you suspect the democrats had any hidden motive in drawing up the resolution in the shape its foot?

Alderman Howland—Well, the way they carry on is curious. Let one of the thirteen democrats hold up his hand and intimate he wants this thing or that thing done, and the whole of them your that thing done, and the whole of them you he does. They crystalize immediately—an failing together as one man, it was natural enough for us to snapet there was something wrong from the tactics of the other side; but right or wrong I want to see the city work done by contract. Still, as I believe General Porter to be a gentleman, I am willing, if he will eally have the goodness to let me know what way he would rather have the work done and why he prefers, it he does, day work to contract work, to vote for a resolution based on the Commissioner's opinion.

A sensible alderman.

of for a residence of the Board of AlAlderman Lewis, President of the Board of Alderman Lewis, President of Alderman Lewis, Presi anxiously looking up in the dark and musty chambers of the City Hall the republicans who blocked the proposition to rid Harlem of its pes-tilential flats, that he too was looking for some of

blocked the proposition to rid hariem of its pes-tilential flats, that he too was looking for some of the same tribe.

REPORTER—What do you think, Alderman, of the action of the republicans?

Alderman Lewis—Don't know what to say. It's very queer—very queer indeed. As he attered these words the Alderman shook his head with great solemnity, and filled the reporter's mind with dreadful suspictons of something being ut-tierly wrong and rotten in the state of City Hall bolitics. REPORTER—Is there any hope left, Alderman, that the Harlem flats will be filled in and disposed

REPORTER—Is there any hope left, Alderman, that the Harlem flats will be filled in and disposed of this season?

Alderman Lewis—I am afraid not. You see it would take thirty days to advertise for contracts to fill in, and really before the men got to work the summer would be clean over, and for that matter, it a plague set in, every man, weman and child in harlem might be dead.

Exporter—Suppose the Commissioner was left the option, now would it be?

Alderman Lewis—Why, the men might be at work in a few days. Here a couple of residents of Harlem came in, and to the question of them answered, "It's a perfect outrage. I wish these republican Alderman could be made to spend a few nights over the flats, and then they might know how it is themselves." Later in the day the reporter met Alderman Lewis again and inquired of him if he had met any of the republican Alderman met any of the republican Alderman them is as thomnoke, or some such place in the country; Howland was here for the first time yesterday since the ruction. Robinson may be found generally knocking about here, but hang the one of taem i see to-day."

The democratic members of the Board of Aldermen were naturally very holgman at the narrow policy that induced the republican members of the Board to vote against the ordinance empowering the Commissioner of Public Works to proceed at once and abate the nuisance at the Hariem flats.

Board to vote against the Commissioner of Public Works to proceed at the Commissioner of Public Works to proceed at once and abate the nuisance at the Harlem data. Aiderman Purroy, speaking to a Herallo reporter, said:—"It is not like any ordinary measure like any ordinary measure like any ordinary neasure to which party feeling might crop out, but it is an ordinance necessary for the good health of the

which party leeing might orop out, but it is an ordinance necessary for the good health of the Gity."

KEPORTER—Why did you object to the substitute to the ordinance offered by Alderman Simonson;
Alderman Perroy—Simply on account of the delay; the ordinance reads—"Be filled in by contract or in such makers as the Commissioner of the delay; the ordinance reads—"Be filled in by contract or in such makers as the Commissioner of the city," and Alderman Simonson substituted, "After due notice sami save been served on all the owners of said sunken lands and if the said owners refuse to fill in said lands, the same shall be filled by contract, under the direction of the Commissioner of Public Works," If Alderman Simonson's substitute was adopted we would not have the flats filled in before uext year, as after nothlying the owners and getting their answers they would then have to advertise for contracts; whereas, it the Commissioner of Public Works has the earts and men reacy and can get the dirt for nothing.

ALDERMAN VANCE.

A reporter of the Herald yesterday called upon Alderman Vance in order to obtain from him an explanation of his vote against the ordinance giving to the Commissioner of Public Works the power to have the work of filling the flats done according to his discretion. To this Mr. Vance replied that he had had sufficient experience in

weather would leave almost no trace of the covering behind, and it is

to serve any purpose, even that of making the public believe that there is any real desire to applied believe that there is any real desire to applied believe that there is any real desire to applied believe that there is any real desire to applied and dangerous nuisance. Judging by the appearance of the people was live in the shandes along the Second syenue border of these flats the inacted work ourselves if we had the money without any help from the Board of Alportionment?

Frofessor Chandles—We only ask what really belong to the Commissioner of Public Works the Recording to his discretion. To this Mr. Vance replied that he had had sufficient experience in and can do nothing unless the Board of Apportionment of the locality must produce a delectrious effect on the human system. Even the children who are to be found remping around, though apparently strong, lack the ruddy color of those who have to be found remping around, though apparently strong, lack the ruddy color of those who have a branch of the first lock. They are palle, dirty and asquald look first and will only a supple the provided at the dirt we require without paying for it and will only have the carried to do we could manneg to the provided at the dirt we require without paying for it and will only have the carried to do we could manneg to the provided at the dirt we require without paying for it and will only have the carried to do we could manneg to the provided at the dirt we require without paying for it and will only have the carried to do we could manneg to the provided at the dirt we require without paying for it and will only have the bear of work to appear of the provided at the dirt we require without paying for it and will only have the bear of the provided at the dirt we require without paying for it and will only have the provided at the dirt we require without paying for it and will only have the provided at the dirt we require without paying for it and will dir

states he has earth offered to him free to fill up these lots with, out who knows how much or this earth there is or how many lots it will dil? He is careful to say nothing on this point. We, as a Board, are acting under a charter, and that same charter provides that all work involving a larke expenditure of money shall be given out on contract, and that is what! hold out for. I am too sufficiently a mechanic not to know that that kind of work can be done cheaper by contract than in any other way. Another thing which operated with me is the question of drainage. I think it is

A WASTR OF LABOR AND MONEY to set to work and fill up these lots until some provision has been made in this regard; for, in my opinion, it is no way to cover up the ground and then afterward dig down and orain it. The question also arises whether if a quantity of good dry earth even were put upon these lots there would be any amelioration of the alieged existing nuisance. In my mind there is a grave doubt about it, for the history of the city shows that where old streams and ponds have seen filled up and built upon there exists to this day a great amount of chils and lever and ague, which is brought about from the defective drainage. I believe that the first thing to be done is to inaugurate a proper system of drainage and then to bailt up the ground. I should rather have preferred that the property owners should now been notified to fill in the lots themselves within a certain time, and then if they falled to comply with this demand that the city should do the work. This, perhaps.

tain time, and then if they failed to comply with this demand that the city should do the work. This, perhaps,

WOULD TAKE A LITTLE MORE TIME,
but I am not aware that there is any such immediate hurry. I did not vote as I did for any party reasons, but simply because I considered my duty required me to take the stand I have taken. It is true I was elected by a minority vote, yet at the same time! was elected by a minority vote, yet at the same time! was elected as the charter provides, and I therefore consider that I have a perfect first to exercise my privage to vote as my conscience dictates, and as I consider the weiperfect right to exercise my privilege to vote as my conscience dictates, and as i consider the welfare of the distant at large riquires me to. If at any time as ordinance is brought lorward providing that the work shall be given out on confract to the lowest bidder I will vote for it willingly. It would only require about thirty days sufference in time, while there would be a saving of money that would more than trebly compensate for this short delay.

My official life is rapidly drawing to a close, and I mean, while thists, to do my duty and vote only as I think right, independent of any one er any party."

as I think right, independent of any one or any party."

When it was pointed out to Mr. Vance that if bids were advertised for there would probably elapse thirty days at least before the contract could be awarded, and that there imput after that be a delay of several months in the approval of the contractor's scretes, which would throw the matter over into the fall, the Alderman and :—

"I suppose by that you mean to refer to the "I suppose by that you mean to refer to she Comptroller; out I do not think there is any member of the city government but wishes and intense to do his duty, and I still hold to the contract sys-

tem."
The dangers to health during the heated term were again referred to, but Mr. Vance said, in rewere again referred to, but Mr. Vance said, in reply, that he falled to see any immediate cause for alarm. "If there is any," said he, "let the Board of Health dismicst the lots. They have the power to do so, and if there is the danger that people talk about let them exercise that power. It would cost less, and probably be more effective and certainly less expensive than filling in by day's labor under the city."

cost less, and probably be more effective and certainly less expensive than filling in by day's labor under the city."

Alderman Simonson, was also opposed the passage of the ordinance, was also visited yesterday. He, like Alferman Vance, stated that he did not believe there was such absolute necessity for any violent hurry in the matter, "for," said he, "these flats have been there for years, and have not done any great harm, and I do not know that they will be any worse this year. I was in favor of giving notice to the property owners to do their own filling in: but still it an eriamance provising for at to be done by centract is introduced I would vote for it, for that is the only way such an immense work as this could be properly and economically performed. The Commissioner says he has the earth offered him; but he does not say how much. It may be that there is only enough to spread over five or six lots, or that after a certain quantity has been used, that the owner of the dirt will farn round and say he will not let any more be carted away unless he be paid for it. What would be the result? Why, the city would have to buy it, and then

WHAT WOULD THE COST BE?

No one can tell. It would us one of the biggest placers ever known, and f 'or one am not willing to cast my vote giving such vast power to any one man. It will be found the eneapest in the end, as well as the quickest way, to let the work by contract. The delay hast would arise in perfecting these contracts would be trifling compared with the interests involved, Besides, I do not see that there is any such great nulsance as some people make out. I often go out that way and bever find anything so very disagreesole, although I must say there is one place which looks like a pool of Stagnant water, which may

which hodes had a pool of stagnart water, which may OCASIONALLY GIVE OFF OFFENSIVE ODDRS. Let the Board of Health decoderize the ground, and even this expense would be money saved compared with what it would cost to do the filling in by day's work as put against contract. I think I have an undoubted right to vote in the Board as I think proper. It is no reason that because I was elected by woat is called a minority yole that

T SHOULD BE STULTIFIED and blindly follow the lead of a majority. Supposing they voted to pay out a militen or more of the city funds among the selves; would be doing my duty to support those F No. I should not, well, why snould it in this case you the way they do if believe it wrong? I have the welfare of the city at heart and will not go against my convic-tions for any one. I always try to do right and am led by no one."

NEW YORK CITY.

Music in Central Park this afternoon at four

inst night by failing from a truck in Stanton street. He was taken to Believue Hospital. M. A. McCielland, residing at No. 41 East 111th

street, was driving in St. Nicholas avenue fast

Thomas Willett, a boy fourteen years of age, residing at No. 423 East Eleventh street, was thrown from a wagon at the corner of avenue B and Houston street last night, and received a sere scalp wound. After having his wounds essed at the Eleventh precinct station house was taken to Bellevue Hospital.

The new Board of Pharmacy have commenced the examination of candidates for licenses as pharmaceutists. Of six yesterday four qualified, the other two being rejected. There are a few pharmaceutists in the city who have not yet com-plied with the law, and they will be reported to the bistrict Attorney for prosecution. A man lost his hat yesterday alternoon from the

steamer Arrowsmith as sae approached the pier Coney Island, and a bootblack plunged into the water to recover it. The heroic polishe was swept seaward by the current, and w action of John Connors, who jumped into one of Mr. Sebert's boats, fortunately at hand, and res

The funeral of John V. Gridley, Jr., & clerk in the office of the Corporation Counsel, who was drowned in the East River on Wednesday last, took place yesterday from the Bleecker street Universalist church, Mr. Gridley was a promising young man, and had been for a long time con-nected with the Central Police Office as telegraph operator. The functal services, which were very impressive, were conducted by the Rev. Mr. Sweetzer, and were largely attended.

BROOKLYN.

There were 200 deaths in Brooklyn last week. President Porter, of Yale College, Will preach in Plymouth church next Sunday.

The City Treasurer has paid in May and June

\$1,447,500 of the principal of the city dept. John Fox, a laborer, was killed yesterday by the stump of a tree and some earth falling on him, at the corner of Bergen street and Bedford avenue. J. Phillips, a painter, fell from a scaffold of a

new building at the corner of Throop avenue and Binrt street, yesterday, while he was painting, and was instantly killed. Twenty-five cases of smallpox in various stages

were discovered in the Twelith ward on Taurs-day. The inspector who visited the district had 128 persons vaccinated. William A. Mooney, William C. Buck and Mishael McNamara, three burglars, were sentenced to the Penitentiary by Judge Moore, in the Court of Ses

Mary Parlane, thirty years of age, went on the roof of her residence, No. 176 Front street, yesterday, and, missing her feeting, fell to the sidewalk. She died from the effects of her in The Common Council Committee who went to

inspect the bridges in Chicago, are, it is understood, preparing a report in favor of putting tun-nels under Gowanus canal and doing away with the bridges. The transfer of the children in the Kings County Nursery, at Flatbush, to the orphan asylums and

other private institutions will, in accordance with the act played at the last session of the New York Legislature, be shortly effected.

Yesterday afternoon George Miller, of No. 231 Atlantic avenue, fell from the roof a new church at the corner of Richard and Varona streets, a distance of fitty feet. His leg was broken, and it is believed he was intermally injured.

THE HERALD LIGHTNING EXPRESS.

OLD PATHER NIAGARA STARTLED AT THE RATTLE OF THE HERALD LIGHTNING EXPRESS [From the Niagara Falls Register, July 7.]

A NEW ERA IN JOURNALISM.

The arrival of the Herald train in this place on Sunday last marks a new era in journalism, and opens to us advantages not beretofore within our reach. Considering the event of more than an ordinary occurrence, our reporter called on the gentlemen in charge of the train at the International, who very courteously recounted the experiences of the trip.

depot exactly on time, half-past two P. M., with

quite a number of through passengers. The trip

up the Hudson River road proved very appoying to the HERALD men. They steamed through the villages at an unusual pace. So frequently were the villages reached that it made it rather a lively job to throw out the packages, which had to be made up in the train and addressed. The more dropping of the packages was no great task, but owing to the speed of the train and the close proximity of the track to the river in many places, each package had to be dropped from tho rear end of the car. Before arriving at Spuyten Duvyll the engineer began to get mad. He had been given charge of a new engine, much to his regret, for a new engine requires to be worked slow, and it soon began to dawn on the mind of the trate engineer that something was getting very warm. At Spayten Duyvil the connecting rods became so hot that it was found necessary to cool off. At Poughkeepsis the engine was abandoned entirely, a new one substituted and the lost time partially regained before reaching Albany, at which time partially replace they were cieven minutes late.

Albany another engine was hitched on, but the train kept losing time. The BERALD men began to growl, the engineer cursed the bad coal, and at Palatine Bridge they came to a halt with eighty pounds of steam on. Here they used a few large adjectives, and started on their way West again, arriving at Syracuse thirty-one minutes behind time. At Syracuse Superintendent Tillinghast and Assistant Superintendent Burrows boarded the train. Everybooy was cross but a few passengers, who didn't care a cent about riding at a faster rate. Superintendent Tillinghast had selected one of the best engines in the yard, and in its caboose he took a position, remarking that "if things would hold together Buffale would be reached in time"-a fulfilment which was thoroughly carried out. Between Syracuse and Rochester the fastest time was made-a mile a minute being the ordinary speed on some parts of the road. The train is chartered by the HERALD, but the papers are controlled exclusively by the Union News Company, The tickets are issued by the HERALD at the regular rates, and enough were sold on the first trip to pay half the expenses of the train. A few of the passengers came direct to the Palle, but the majority went West by the Lake Shore and Michigan outhern Railroad from East Buffaio. Passengers are not allowed to carry any baggage but hand values. At the stations along the line immense crowds welcomed the train with cheers as it passed. In some cases huge bouquets were thrown at the baggage car doors, waich generally reached the track at the rear of the train. The boys regretted very much that their only response was to pitch packages of the Sunday HERALD, containing from five to one hundred papers, directly on the heads of the wondering crowd.

Next Sunday we may expect to see a larger number of through passengers to this place, as it is now generally understood that Kenaup tickets only will be accepted as fare-something which several did not know at the commencement of the

THE GREATEST NEWSPAPER ACHIEVEMENT ON RECORD-WHAT NEXT? [From the Providence Post, July 7.]

There seems to be no limit to the enterprise of the metropolitan journals. The HERALD recorded the greatest achievement in the distribution of news thus far on record, by running a special train Sunday from New York to Niagara Fails, a distance of 470 miles, in cleven hours, solely for distributing its Sunday edition along the line. At the same time its steam yacht delivered the paper at Long Branch at five o'clock on the morning of publication. Only the navigation of the air will enable its rivals to excel this HERALD en-

PASSENGERS ACCOMMODATED AT THE USUAL BATES.

INew York correspondence Ruffale Courter? I was in error last week in saying, when speaking of the RERALD'S Sunday trains to Saratoga and Ningara, that Vanderbilt would not give permission to carry passengers. Permission has been Chicago and some intermediate points, and at the ordinary rates. Any person with a fancy for travelling fifty miles an hour can be accommodated on the HERALD trains.

A STUR A STRUCTS-THINK OF THAT! (From the Syracuse Courier, July 7.1 THE "HERALD'S" EXPRESS.

Jem Woods, with the crack engine on the New York Central road, No. 110, drew the New York HERALD's special train from this city to Buffato last Sunday. Among the passengers from Syra cuso were Mr. George H. Burroughs, Superintendent of the Western Division-whom the Herald calls a "good-humored, good-looking gentleman," Mesers. Henry Watkeys and Harry Bassett, of this ciry. The train was run at a rate exceeding a mile a minute between here and Rochester. It is said that 35,000 copies of the BERALD's Sunday edition were distributed last Sunday, and that that number will be doubled next week. The receipts on the train between the metropolis and this city, from the sales of papers and fares, amounted to \$1,000, the sum paid the New York Central by Bennett for the train.

ELMIRA SPEARS ABOUT THE LIGHTNING TRAIN [From the Elmira Advertiser, July 7.]

The Sunday Herald's express train was inaugurated last Sunday, leaving New York at halfpast two A. M., and reaching Niagara Falls at a quarter to two P. M., supplying all the principal uties on the route, and branching off to Saratoga and other watering places by wagon.

"WIDE AWARE AND A FIT REPRESENTATIVE OF AMERICAN ENERGY."

[Prom the Lockport (N. Y.) Journal, July 7.1 Although the HERALD folk gave Lockport quite the go by in the matter of their special Sungay train ferring to reach Buffalo via such ancient burgs as Batavia, we must learn to be magnanimous. The great New York paper means well, but someholy has evidently been guiling it on the respective importance of localities out this way. But no matter about that. The HERALD Surday train is certainly an institution. Leaving New York at 2:30 A. M., it reaches Suspension Bridge at 1:37 P. Mr. All along the line great bundles of the Hyparn of that day are dropped out to admiring constituents. This sort of thing of course gives the HEBALD a great advantage over all its metropolitan constantly securing just that sort of thing. It is wide awake and a fit representative of American energy and newspaper persistency.

(From the Ningara Falls Register, July 8.f. The fare from New York to Eugalo or Niagara Falls by the New York Herald Sunday newspaper lightning express train is but \$9 25. The NEW YORK BERALD CAPTIES Its Sunday

edition from Schenectady to Saratoga by wagon, not being able to make satisfactory arrangements with the railroad.

A WHEELING CONTEMPORARY WREELS INTO LINE.

[From the Wheeling (W. Va.) Register.] The New York HREALD publishes a full description of its Sunday lightning train from New York to Niagara Falls, a distance of 470 miles, in eleven hours, including several stoppages-one as long as twenty-three minutes. This train went at some portions of the trip at a speed of more than a mile a minute.

GOSSIP OF THE WATERING PLACES.

It seems that General Cusbing, our Minister at Mastrid, is not summering at Newburyport, as cording to reports. The Herald of that place says, he must have Prince All's carpet to travel by telegraph and Gyzes' ring to make himself invistbie if the news were true. Probably the report arose from the announcement that Mr. Cushing had become a resident of Newburyport and i raxed there.

They are establishing anti-treating societies at some of the watering places. Probably the mem-bers think that the pleasure is as great in being treated as to treat. We learned that the train left the Grand Central

The annual Rhode Island clambakes on Providence River are now all the rage among the denizens of that section and their numerous guests from everywhere. The Newburyport Herald urges that place as a

delightful summer resort at popular prices. The attractions are rather more out of the place than It is estimated that during the months of July and August there will be every day from 2,000 to 3,000 Americans scattered along the water from

Niagara Falls to Coicontinie, the head of navigation of the Saguenay River. An incorrigible old Western newspaper growler having said that the proper watering place for a woman was the washtub, his linen appeared

"ragged-edged" all the next week. Somebody recommends Washington city as a cool watering place for the summer. Be that as it may, it is certain that during the winter a great many people there find it hot enough for them.

The Potter Palmers, of Chicago; the Lowry Manns, of Caesaire, England; Henry Watts, of London; R. G. Appleton, of New York; the M. Day Kimbails, of Boston, with the Lambs, of Providence, are among the recent arrivals at the

Ocean, Newport. The Schlosses, of New York; L. W. Tobey and wile and T. W. Whitney, are at the Aquidneck, Newport. So is A. Sidney De Wolff, of Bristol, one of the family grandees of Rhode Island.

Osgood Walsh, of New York, is occupying one of Hall Cliff's cottages at Newport. Frederick W. Stevens and family, of New York, who have been in Europe the past two years, are expected at their Believue avenue villa, Newport-Only two receptions have thus far been given by

the summer residents at Newport. Mr. and Mrs. Joel B. Post, of New York, cele-brated the fortieth anniversary of their marriage

on the 7th, in Newport.

Baron Shielman, Count Litta and Baron Tavera, of Washington, are stopping at the Cataract, Ningara. So is Baron Miedell.

Dr. G. W. Parmly, of Paris, and Clarence S. Day, of New York, are spending a few days at the Cataract.

Judge Nathan Clifford and wife, of Portland, Me., are at the international, Niagara. The Henry Millers, of San Francisco, are at the International. So are the J. Lowmans, of Cincinnatt.

Dr. G. W. Parmly, of Paris; the Babcocks, of Syracuse; the Burtises, of Buffalo, are at the Cataract, Niagara. W. H. Piepper and G. W. Smith, of Texas, are the only names registered as halling from south

of Mason & Dixon's line, at the principal Niagars Falls hotels, on the 7th inst. The Boston Transcript remarks that "what are known as excursion resorts seem destined to take the cream of the summer business the

present season." A watering place organ laments that croquet playing should be provocative of "cussedness" at summer resorts,

For titled personages Niagara Falls appears to have the call thus far this season over either Long Branch, Saratova or Newport. Vice President Wilson will apply himself strictly

to literary and not political pursuits while tarrying at Saratoga. A new city has been started adjoining Cape

May, employing some 500 men. Already about 100 cottages have been erected. A letter writer from Cape May claims to have statistics from the Chief Signal Officer, United States Army, showing Cape May to be cooler than any other resort along the Atlantic coast, espe-

cially in winter, pernaps.

The Fiemings, of New York, are cottaged at the Grand Union.

A cosey samily party from the Hub, O. W. Wales and wife, Miss Wales and Miss Dow, are at Congress Hall. "Sweets to the Sweet." Robert L. Stuart, the

well known sugar refiner of New York and wife, are parlor suited at the States, Saratoga. Judge J. S. Landon, of Schenectady, combines business with pleasure by holding a special term

for equity cases in the town hall at Saratoga. The Schlesingers, of New York, are at the Clarendon, Saratoga,

at the Grand Union, Saratoga. The Dullards may be found at almost any fashionable summer re-

W. A. Gregory, of New York, an habitud of the Springs, and a genial W. A. G. he is reported to be, is at Congress Hall with his daughter. A detachment of the Skidmore Guards have

reached Sarators and bivonacked at the Clarendon. their usual camping ground. The Pomeroys, of New York, with Mrs. H. Faile, are elegantly parlored at the States, Saratoga, A British army officer, R. A. Hickson, by name,

is tarrying at the States, Saratoga, It seems he was too modest to register his rank. A. Hanford has reached the Charendon, Saratoga, from Texas, being the only Southern arrival from

the far South for the day.

The drowning phobia at the watering places has set in. There were no less than eighteen cases in New England last week. Platt Petter, of Schenectady, ex-Justice of the

Supreme Court, is at Saratoga. Mr. and Mrs. George Opdyke, of New York, occupy a parlor suit at the States, Saratoga. Theodore Cuyter, of the Philadelphia Bar, ts at

Saratoga. The Emersons, of Brooklyn, cottage at the Grand Union, Saraboga, for the season, Israel Washburn, Jr., and daughter of Maine, are at the Grand Union, Saratoga.

at the Grand Union, Saratoga. THE IRVING MEMORIAL FUND.

The Nicaolases, of New York, have a parlor suit

MEETING OF WESTCHESTER LADIES AT TARRY-TOWN IN FURTHERANCE OF THE PROPOSI SCHEME

About twenty persons, three-fourths of whom were of the gentler sex, met in the lecture room of the Second Refermed church, at Tarrytown, Westchester county, yesterday afternoon, for the purpose of effecting a local organization to co. operate with the ladies of the General Committee of the Washington Irving Memorial Associa-tion. Rev. J. Seiden Spencer, who, on motion of Rev. Dr. Todd, was called motion of Rev. Dr. Todd, was called to the chair, proceeded briefly to state the object of the meeting, which, the speaker said, had his bearty concurrence. They had assembled, as restarked, not for the purpose of domeg any act of justice to the memory of the deceased—his lame is world-wide—but it was intended as an act of justice to ourselves and to the age in which we live. The reverend gentleman concluded by saying that, imismuch as the ladies had taken charge of the project, there could be no reasonable doubt of its succeeding.

After Mrs. William A. Wilson had been unanimously elected secretary, Mrs. E. F. Wait, who After Mrs. William A. Wilson had been unantmonsty elected secretary, Mrs. E. F. Wait, who
was recently elected secretary of the Irving Memortal Association in New York, or motion of the
Rev. Dr. Todd, explained to the meeting the manner in which they proposed
to accomplish the desired object, and also
stated the previous which had already been
made in that direction. The law also said that
there were already in the treasury about \$1,500
and that the work of executing the proposed
colossal bust of Washington Irving had been
alotted to Mr. Wilson McDonaid, of New York,
who had pledged himself to complete it in time
for the Center-stail Exhibition if the general committee would be propared to encourage him in his
task.

Mrs. Walt also took occasion to say that the

Mrs. Wait also took occasion to say that the Mrs. Walt also took occasion to say that the work in hand was not confined to the ladies of New York, Weatchester and Kings counties, but that the ladies of the whole nation were cordially invited to join with them in the proposed tribute to the memory of Washington Irving. The mames of several ladies, not present at the meeting, were then proposed as members of the General Committee and unanimously elacted, are Secretary being requested to inform these of their election.

The meeting then adionrast.